

TOWN OF HOPKINTON 18 Main Street Hopkinton, MA 01748

COVID-19 Updates & Precautions October 21, 2020 update

Previous updates and additional information and resources can be found here:

https://coronavirus-hopkintonma.hub.arcgis.com/

Hopkinton Town Hall reopened to the public as of Monday August 10th. Appointments are required: <u>click here for more information</u>. All town departments are open for business. Many transactions can be completed online, and we are available via phone and email to assist during regular business hours. A full Town Directory can be <u>found here</u>. A box at the front door of Town Hall may be used to drop off correspondence, applications, etc., and they may also be mailed or emailed.

As of 10/21/20, Hopkinton's Health Department is reporting 160 total confirmed COVID-19 cases; 7 of those cases are active, with 140 recoveries and 13 deaths. You can see historical tracking and updates on Hopkinton's Community Impact Dashboard which is updated frequently.

Town Hall Reopening Plan:

Town Hall is open to the public **by appointment only**. This is due to the state's COVID-19 limits on building occupancy. Click here for more information.

Massachusetts Department of Public Health COVID-19 weekly Public Health Report- NEW UPDATE

The Weekly COVID-19 Public Health Report includes enhanced, more granular information to be updated on a weekly, or biweekly basis, including town-by-town case and testing information, cases and deaths in Long Term Care Facilities, updates on nursing facility audit results, and more. The Weekly COVID-19 Public Health Report, including the city/town data and map, will be posted on <u>Thursdays</u>, beginning 10/22. This is a departure from the past, where this report was published on Wednesday afternoons. More info here: https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-response-reporting

COVID-19 Housing Assistance - NEW UPDATE

Hopkinton renters and homeowners facing eviction, foreclosure, loss of utilities, or other housing emergencies caused by loss of income, increase in expenses, or both due to the COVID-19 pandemic may call the Massachusetts 2-1-1 information hotline for information on state housing assistance programs. Operators for 2-1-1 are trained to answer questions and connect residents to the state agencies that administer COVID-19 housing assistance programs. Information is also available on the state's website: www.mass.gov/CovidHousingHelp.

State public health officials offer tips for a safe and healthy Halloween:

Be smart! Be safe! Follow the link below for information on how to have a safe and healthy Halloween. https://www.mass.gov/news/state-public-health-officials-offer-tips-for-a-safe-and-healthy-halloween

More to the Story - Mental Health Initiative:

There could be more to the story... You don't have to be an expert to support a friend in a time of need. Knowing how to recognize signs that something is wrong and start a conversation can make a huge difference to our loved ones. We can all Ask, Listen, Encourage, and Check in. Click here for more info. Sometimes it may seem like more immediate help is needed. If a situation is potentially life threatening, call 9-1-1. If a friend or family member is experiencing a mental health or substance use crisis, the Emergency Services Program is available to everyone 24/7. Call 1-877-382-1609

COVID-19 Vaccine Advisory Group:

Comprised of medical professionals, public health experts, elected officials, community leaders and infectious disease specialists, the COVID-19 Vaccine Advisory Group will advise the Administration, including the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) and the COVID-19 Command Center, on communication, distribution, and equity issues relating to a COVID-19 vaccine. Click here for more information.

Transition to Step II of Phase III for Lower Risk Communities Effective October 5th:

Effective Monday, October 5th, lower risk communities were permitted to move into Step II of Phase III of the Commonwealth's reopening plan. More information can be found here.

Hopkinton also posts frequently on social media. Our Twitter is the best place to keep up with all happenings Hopkinton. You don't need an account to see our twitter feed: https://twitter.com/HopkintonMA

Complete list of Emergency Orders and Guidance from Mass.gov https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-state-of-emergency